

# **Delaware State Independent Living Council (SILC)**

**February 22, 2016**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **Members present:**

Kat Bottner  
Darryl Garner  
Suzanne Howell, Chair  
Monica “Moni” Edgar  
Cheryl Hampson  
August “Gus” Hazeur  
Larry Henderson  
Jean May  
Blake Roberts (attending from Dover)  
Chris Trincia  
Jamila Waigwa

### **Absent:**

Staci Forrest  
John Gano  
Joseph Insley

### **Other Attendees:**

Leslie Ann Albert  
Janet Berry  
Sharon Boland  
Chantel Jackson  
Shana Johnson  
HarrietAnn Litwin  
Melodye May  
Lauren Reynolds

### **Call to Order**

Suzanne Howell called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. She noted the October meeting minutes and asked if there were any changes. There were no changes. A motion to approve the minutes was announced; all members accepted with no opposition.

Suzanne's started the meeting stating that her current SILC membership expires on April 24, 2016. Although she can still attend meetings, she will need to resign off of the Council as a member for at least six months prior to reapplying.

## **Membership, Purpose, and Mission of the SILC**

A discussion followed how the SILC needs to recruit new members. Suzanne stated that part of today's meeting would include discussing the purpose and the mission of the SILC and to form committees. In addition, she noted that the group would discuss the goals and objectives of the 2016 SILC.

The first item was a discussion regarding how did the group (SILC) want each organization to report to the SILC at the meeting – what did they want each other to know? The end result was that each organization's representative is to provide a narrative report including the following three factors: 1) what has been particularly successful at their organization, 2) current or past challenges, and 3) what's coming up. Although other formats were discussed, the members will continue to report in person at the SILC meeting.

## **Committees**

The topics of outreach and committees were intermingled with the above discussion regarding reporting. The discussion on outreach was lively and included many suggestions such as updating the SILC website calendar, promoting the website, using Facebook, public service announcements (psa), and having members represent SILC as speakers at events and attending events and conferences.

Darryl also made the point that it is possible that the SILC is leaving out certain populations by only using the internet. He noted that the National Federation for the Blind (NFB) Newline is an option for information that is going on in Delaware. Leslie Ann also mentioned that the SILC could publicize for members and participants. Last, the SILC could invite other groups to attend meetings for training and also ask a representative to join. As a result, Jamila will ask a representative from Aging Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to speak at the April meeting.

The Outreach Committee was formed - Moni Edgar is the Chair and Kat Bottner, Jean May, and Jamila Waigwa are the members. The Outreach Committee will handle a variety of duties including updating the website event calendar, promoting website, public service announcements, and scheduling conferences.

The Bylaw Committee was established – Suzanne Howell is the Chair and Cheryl Hampson, HarrietAnn Litwin, and Moni Edgar are the members. The Membership Committee was formed – Larry Henderson is the Chair and Darryl Garner and Blake Roberts are the members. The Advocacy Committee was also formed. Cheryl Hampson is the Chair and Kat Bottner, Janet Berry, and Moni Edgar are the members. Last, the Finance Committee was formed. Lauren Reynolds is the Chair and Cheryl Hampson is the member.

## **Goals**

The group discussed the SPIL and that there will be two Public Meetings. The first is on March 8<sup>th</sup> and the second is on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Notices will be posted on the State Calendar.

Other goals include restructuring the SILC into committees and working on new goals and activities, especially for underserved areas. There was also discussion regarding the percentage of people with disabilities who are registered to vote as perhaps that was an area the SILC could target.

## **Outreach**

Chris will attend the Brain Injury Association of Delaware (BIAD) Conference at Dover Downs on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Suzanne stated that she attended the Legislation, Independence, Families, and Education (LIFE) Conference in January and noted that John Gano brought SILC information.

## **2016 SILC Congress Update**

Cheryl Hampson, Chris Trincia, and Jean May attended the SILC Congress. Cheryl typed up collective notes on behalf of the attendees which are included with the minutes. Cheryl noted that she has been appointed the SILC Representative for Region III. She will attend monthly national SILC Congress 2017 Planning Meetings. Cheryl noted that the Veteran's Administration (VA) defines disability as service related and if the injury is not service related, then the veteran cannot receive services through the disability services program through the VA. However, if it is blindness, then the individual can receive services.

## **Independent Living Research Utilization Training**

Cheryl noted that Paula McElwee from the ILRU is available to provide training to the DE SILC and that the funding for the training has already been approved and allocated. Suzanne will contact Paula. As noted in the October Meeting, there are resources for the SILC available on the [IRLU.org](http://www.IRLU.org) website.

## **Webinars**

Last, Cheryl noted that there are two upcoming webinars presented by the Mid Atlantic ADA Center. The first webinar is titled "Building a Digital Accessibility Program" and is being presented on April 6 from 2 pm to 3:30 pm. For additional information or to sign up visit the organization's website at <http://www.adainfo.org/training/webinar-building-accessibility-program> or call them at 1-800-949-4232 V/TTY

The second webinar is titled "Frequently Asked Questions about the ADA and Alternative Forms of Transportation" and is being presented on May 4 from 2 pm to 3:30 pm. For additional information or to sign up visit the organization's website at <http://www.adainfo.org/training/webinar-frequently-asked-questions-about-ada-and-alternate-forms-transportation> or call them at 1-800-949-4232 V/TTY

## **ADA Conference**

Cheryl also noted that the 23rd Annual Mid-Atlantic ADA Conference is being held on Sept. 14 and 15 at the Hilton Baltimore in Baltimore, Maryland. For more information, visit <http://www.adainfo.org/Content/ADA-Update> or call 1-800-949-4232 V/TTY  
Suzanne adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 25.

## **2016 Meeting Dates:**

June 27, August 22, October 24, and the December date is to be determined.

**-END-**